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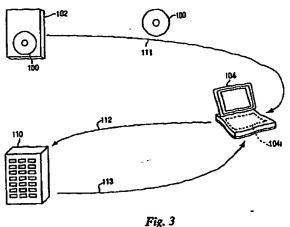
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- (71) Applicant: VICTOR COMPANY OF JAPAN LIMITED Yokohama-Shi Kanagawa-Ken (JP)

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#### (54) Cipher key and reproduction methods, apparatuses, systems and optical disc

(57) Plural program information and a BCA (Burst Cutting Area) number of the optical disc 100 is previously recorded in the optical disc 100. A drive ID is stored in the nonvolatile memory 104a of the reproduction apparatus 104. A user of the reproduction apparatus 104 notifies the BCA number, the drive ID, and a number of preferred program information to the software house (software supplier) 110 on the condition that the user pays for the reproduction of the preferred

program information recorded in the optical disc 100. The software house 1 10 notifies a cipher key to the reproduction apparatus 104 or the user. A title key is calculated in the reproduction apparatus 104 in accordance with the BCA number, the drive ID, and the cipher key. The preferred information recorded in the optical disc 100 is permitted to be reproduced by using the title key.



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## EP 0 853 315 A3



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Application Number EP 98 10 0149

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4